Numb. 189

# The TATLER.

By *Iſaac Bickerſtaff* Eſq;

*Eſt in Juvencis, eſt in Equis Patrum*
*Virtus; nec imbellem feroces*
*Progenerant Aquilæ Columbam.* Hor.

From *Thurſday June* 22. to *Saturday June* 24. 1710.

*From my own Apartment, June* 23.

HAVING lately turned my Thoughts upon the Conſideration of the Behaviour of Parents to Children in the great Affair of Marriage, I took much Delight in turning over a Bundle of Letters, which a Gentleman's Steward in the Country had ſent me ſome Time ago. This Parcel is a Collection of Letters written by the Children of the Family (to which he belongs) to their Father, and contain all the little Paſſages of their Lives, and the new Idea's they received as their Years advanced. There is in them an Account of their Diverſions as well as their Exerciſes; and what I thought very remarkable, is, That Two Sons of the Family, who now make conſiderable Figures in the World, give Omens of that Sort of Character which they now bear, in the firſt Rudiments of Thought which they ſhow in their Letters. Were one to point out a Method of Education, one could not, methinks, frame one more pleaſing or improving than this; where the Children get an Habit of communicating their Thoughts and Inclinations to their beſt Friend with ſo much Freedom, that he can form Schemes for their future Life and Conduct from an Obſervation of their Tempers, and by that means be early enough in chuſing their Way of Life, to make them forward in ſome Art or Science at an Age when others have not determined what Profeſſion to follow. As to Perſons concerned in this Packet I am ſpeaking of, they have given great Proofs of the Force of this Conduct of their Father in the Effect it has had upon their Lives and Manners. The elder, who is a Scholar, ſhowed from his Infancy a Propenſity to polite Studies, and has made a ſuitable Progreſs in Literature; but his Learning is ſo well woven into his Mind, that from the Impreſſions of it, he ſeems rather to have contracted an Habit of Life, than Manner of Diſcourſe. To his Books he ſeems to owe, a good Oeconomy in his Affairs, and a Complaiſancy in his Manners, tho' in others that Way of Education has commonly a quite different Effect. The Epiſtles of the other Son are full of Accounts of what he thought moſt remarkable in his Reading. He ſends his Father for News the laſt noble Story he had read. I obſerve, he is particularly touched with the Conduct of *Codrus*, who plotted his own Death, becauſe the Oracle had ſaid, If he were not killed, the Enemy ſhould prevail over his Country. Many other Incidents in his little Letters give Omens of a Soul capable of generous Undertakings; and what makes it the more particular, is, That this Gentleman had, in the preſent War, the Honour and Happineſs of doing an Action for which only it was worth coming into the World. Their Father is the moſt intimate Friend they have, and they always conſult him rather than any other, when any Error has happened in their Conduct through Youth and Inadvertency. The Behaviour of this Gentleman to his Sons, has made his Life paſs away with the Pleaſures of a ſecond Youth; for as the Vexations which Men receive from their Children haſten the Approach of Age, and double the Force of Years; ſo the Comforts which they reap from them, are Balm to all other Sorrows, and diſappoint the Injuries of Time. Parents of Children repeat their Lives in their Offſpring, and their Concern for them is ſo near, that they feel all their Sufferings and Enjoyments as much as if they regarded their own proper Perſons. But it is generally ſo far otherwiſe, that the common Race of Squires in this Kingdom, uſe their Sons as Perſons that are waiting only for their Funerals, and Spies upon their Health and Happineſs; as indeed they are by their own making them ſuch. In Caſes where a Man takes the Liberty after this Manner to reprehend others, it is commonly ſaid, Let him look at Home. I am ſorry to own it; but there is one Branch of the Houſe of the *Bickerſtaff*'s, who have been as erroneous in their Conduct this Way as any other Family whatſoever. The Head of this Branch is now in Town, and has brought up with him his Son and Daughter (who are all the Children he has) in order to be put ſome Way into the World, and ſee Faſhions. They are both very ill-bred Cubs, and having lived together from their Infancy without Knowledge of the Diſtinctions and Decencies that are proper to be paid to each other's Sex, they ſquabble like Two Brothers. The Father is one of thoſe who knows no better than that all Pleaſure is Debauchery, and imagines, when he ſees a Man become his Eſtate, that he will certainly ſpend it. This Branch are a People who never had among them one Man eminent either for Good or Ill; however, have all along kept their Heads juſt above Water, not by a prudent and regular Oeconomy, but

but by Expedients in the Matches they have made into their Houſe. When one of the Family has, in the Purſuit of Foxes, and in the Entertainment of Clowns, ran out the Third Part of the Value of his Eſtate, ſuch a Spendthrift has dreſſed up his eldeſt Son, and married what they call a Good Fortune, who has ſupported the Father as a Tyrant over them, during his Life, in the ſame Houſe or Neighbourhood. The Son in Succeſſion has juſt taken the ſame Method to keep up his Dignity, till the Mortgages he has eat and drank himſelf into, have reduced him to the Neceſſity of ſacrificing his Son alſo, in Imitation of his Progenitor. This had been for many Generations the whole that had happened in the Family of *Sam. Bickerſtaff*, till the Time of my preſent Couſin *Samuel*, the Father of the young People we have juſt now ſpoken of

*Samuel Bickerſtaff* Eſq; is ſo happy, as that by ſeveral Legacies from diſtant Relations, Deaths of Maiden Siſters, and other Inſtances of good Fortune, he has, beſides his real Eſtate, a great Sum of ready Money. His Son at the ſame Time knows he has a good Fortune, which the Father cannot alienate, tho' he ſtrives to make him believe he depends only on his Will for Maintenance. *Tom* is now in his Nineteenth Year, Mrs. *Mary* in her Fifteenth. Couſin *Samuel*, who underſtands no one Point of good Behaviour as it regards all the reſt of the World, is an exact Critick in the Dreſs, the Motion, the Looks, and Geſtures of his Children. What adds to their Miſery, is, That he is exceſſively fond of them, and the greateſt Part of their Time is ſpent in the Preſence of this nice Obſerver. Their Life is one continued Conſtraint. The Girl never turns her Head, but ſhe is warned not to follow the proud Minxes of the Town. The Boy is not to turn Fop, or be quarrelſom; at the ſame Time not to take an Affront. I had the good Fortune to dine with him to-day, and heard his fatherly Table-Talk as we ſat at Dinner, which, if my Memory does not fail me, for the Benefit of the World, I ſhall ſet down as he ſpoke it, which was much as follows, and may be of great Uſe to thoſe Parents who ſeem to make it a Rule, That their Children's Turn to enjoy the World is not to commence, till they themſelves have left it.

*Now*, Tom, *I have bought you Chambers in the Inns of Court. I allow you to take a Walk once or twice a Day round the Garden. If you mind your Buſineſs, you need not ſtudy to be as great a Lawyer as* Cook *upon* Littleton. *I have that that will keep you; but be ſure you keep an exact Account of your Linen. Write down what you give out to your Landreſs, and what ſhe brings Home again. Go as little as poſſible to t'other End of the Town; but if you do, come Home early I believe I was as ſharp as you for your Ears, and I had my Hat ſnatched off my Head coming Home late at a Stop by St.* Clement's *Church, and I don't know from that Time to this who took it. I do not care if you learn to fence a little, for I would not have you be made a Fool of. Let me have an Account of every Thing every Poſt; I am willing to be at that Charge, and I think you need not ſpare your Pains. As for you, Daughter* Molly, *don't mind one Word that is ſaid to you* in London, *for it is only for your Money.*

*Advertiſements.*

*MEn's and Women's Morning-Gowns, of Silk, Stuffs, and Callicoe's (being the Goods of Perſons that failed) which were to be diſpoſed of at the Olive-Tree and Still, are now to be ſold at the Golden Sugar-Loaf up one Pair of Stairs, over-againſt the Horſe at Charing-Croſs; with a freſh Parcel at very low Rates, the Price being ſet on each Gown.*

IT being induſtriouſly given out by ſome malicious Perſons, That the Houſe of the late Claudius Gillat, at Hoxton, for the Accommodation of Lunaticks, is ſhut up; Theſe are to certify, That the ſaid Houſe is ſtill kept by William Prowting, Apothecary, who has all Conveniencies fitting for ſuch Perſons, as a large Houſe, pleaſant Gardens, &c. and gives Liberty to any Phyſician, Surgeon, or Apothecary, of adminiſtring Phyſick to thoſe that are recommended by them.

THE Royal African Company doth hereby give Notice, That the Inſtrument agreed on for Uniting the ſaid Company and their Creditors, is already ſigned by a great many of them; and that Attendance is given at the Office of Mr. William Scorey, Notary Publick, at the N. Entrance of the Royal-Exchange every Day from 12 a Clock till 3; and at the African Houſe at all other Times, to take the Subſcriptions of the reſt of the Creditors, till the whole be compleated.

ON Thurſday next, the 29th Inſtant, at Tom's Coffee-houſe in St. Martin's-lane in the Strand, at Four a Clock preciſely, are 20 Hhds. of extraordinary good new French Claets to be ſold; lately landed, and put up at 20 l. per Hhd. To be ſeen and taſted, Tueſday next the 27th, Wedneſday the 28th, and Thurſday the 29th all Day, till the Hour of Sale, under the Tennis Court in St. James's near the Hay-market.

*** Tenants Law, or the Law of Landlords, Tenants, and Farmers. Shewing the ſeveral Kinds of Tenures and Tenants, of Leaſes, Covenants, Reſervations, and Aſſignments; the Doctrine concerning Common of Cattle, &c. between Landlord and Tenant; of Diſtreſſes for Rent, Reſcouſes and Replevins, with all the Acts relating to Landlords and Tenants, and uſeful Obſervations and Caſes adjudged thereupon, &c. Being uſeful for all Landlords, Tenants, Farmers, Agents and Sollicitors. With an exact Table to the whole. The Fifth Edition, with large Additions. Printed for J. Walthoe in the Temple-Cloyſters.

*** A ſmall Parcel of curious Books, moſt of them relating to the Antiquities, Temples, Churches, Palaces, Fountains, and Views of Rome, &c. collected by a Perſon of Quality, lately deceaſed, very fair, and very neatly bound, will be ſold by Auction, at the Coffee-houſe in the little Piazza in Covent-Garden, on Wedneſday the 28th Inſtant. Catalogues may be had at Mr. Cooper's, Print-ſeller, in Bedford-ſtreet, and at the ſaid Coffee-houſe; where the Books may be viewed Two Days before the Sale.

*** This Day is publiſhed, The Fourth Part of A Help to Hiſtory; or, A ſhort Memorial of the moſt material Matters of Fact and Paſſages, Domeſtick and Foreign, uſeful either in Converſation at preſent, or Hiſtory for the future; with an Account of the Births, Deaths, Riſe, Fall, &c. of Perſons of Diſtinction at home and abroad. To come out every Three Months. This Fourth contains from the Firſt of March to the Beginning of June, 1710. Printed for T. Osborn in Gray's-Inn, S. Butler in Holborn, W. Lewis in Ruſſel-ſtreet, Covent-Garden, and J. Morphew near Stationers-Hall. Pr. 4 s. N. B. Part Firſt begins with the Preliminary-Articles for a General Peace. Price of the Four Parts 1 s.

*** Juſt publiſhed, A Book, entitled, Bibliotheca Curioſa; or, A Miſcellany, Hiſtorical, Philological, &c. Part I. The Firſt Article contains an Hiſtorical Account, never before publiſhed, of the Life and Tryal of Nicolas Antoine, born and bred up a Roman Catholick, and burnt for Judaiſm at Geneva in 1632. The Author of this Bibliotheque deſigns to publiſh, among other Things, an Account of curious and ſcarce Books, beſides ſeveral Pieces never before printed. Price 6 d. Sold by A. Baldwin in Warwick-lane.

FRancis Burton, Milliner, is removed from the New Exchange in the Strand to the Three Stags-Heads in Bedford-ſtreet, in Covent-Garden.

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*** The Moſt Noble Volatile Smelling-Bottle in the World; which ſmell'd to, Momentarily fetches the moſt diſmal Fainting, or Swooning Fits, and in a Minute removes Fluſhings, Vapours, Dulneſs, Head-Ach, Megrims, &c. It takes off all Heavy Sleepineſs, retards Swoonings, keeps up the Spirits to a Miracle; and by its Uſe admits of no Faintings, but invigorates and enlivens the whole Man, recreates and makes chearful although never ſo ſad, and in a Moment raiſes all the ſenſitive Faculties. It's alſo to be taken inwardly by Drops, which effectually takes off and eradicates the very Cauſe; for it potently relieves, comforts, and ſtrengthens the Brain, cleares and corroborates a Stomach, removes Sickneſs from it, helps Digeſtion, cleanſes the Blood; and in a Word, is the greateſt Cephalick, Stomatick, Hepatick, and powerful Aromatick poſſible; therefore is extream neceſſary for all Gentlemen, Ladies, &c. always to be carried in their Pockets. Is only ſold at Mr. King's, Picture-ſhop, in the Poultry, and at Mr. Overton's, at the Golden-Buck, Picture-ſhop, againſt St. Dunſtan's Church in Fleet-ſtreet, at 2 s. and 6 d. each, with printed Directions.

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